

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A sheet having an iridescent appearance, characterized in that it comprises, at the surface, a layer formed from iridescent pigments as a mixture with hollow plastic microspheres.
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2. The sheet as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the iridescent pigments are of the titanium oxide-coated mica type.
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3. The sheet as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the hollow plastic microspheres are based on styrene-acrylic polymer.
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4. The sheet as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the mean diameter of the microspheres is between 0.5 μm and 1.0 μm and is preferably equal to approximately 0.6 μm .
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5. The sheet as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it is calendered and its gloss is greater than or equal to 65, as measured with a BYK-Gardner glossmeter oriented at 75° with respect to the normal.
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6. The sheet as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it is transparent or translucent and defines in particular a natural tracing paper.
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7. A process for manufacturing a sheet having an iridescent appearance, characterized in that:
 - a substrate is coated, using a coating device, with a layer composed of a mixture of iridescent pigments and of an aqueous dispersion of hollow plastic microspheres,
 - the coating is dried,
 - the sheet thus obtained is calendered.
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8. The manufacturing process as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that said substrate is a material based on cellulose fibers.
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9. The manufacturing process as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that said substrate is a plastic.
10. The manufacturing process as claimed in one of claims 7 to 9, characterized in that the coating device is a metal blade coater.
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11. The manufacturing process as claimed in one of claims 7 to 9, characterized in that the coating device is a curtain coater.
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12. The manufacturing process as claimed in one of claims 7 to 11, characterized in that a steel calender is used, the sheet being calendered several times, in particular between 3 and 5 times, under a pressure of 80 N/m².
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13. The manufacturing process as claimed in one of claims 7 to 11, characterized in that a "cotton" calender is used.
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14. The manufacturing process as claimed in one of claims 7 to 13, characterized in that the calendering parameters are defined so that the transparency of the layer after calendering is at least twice as high as that of the coating layer before calendering, the transparency being defined by the formula:
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Transparency = 100 - Opacity,
the opacity being evaluated according to standard NF-Q 03 006.
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15. The manufacturing process as claimed in one of claims 7 to 14, characterized in that the

calendering parameters are defined so that the gloss of the sheet after calendering, measured using a BYK-Gardner glossmeter oriented at 75° with respect to the normal, is at least twice as high as that of the sheet before calendering.